

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT MEETING OF OCTOBER 16, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE VILLAGE COURTROOM, 169 MT. PLEASANT AVENUE, MAMARONECK, NY 10543

PRESENT: Michaela Zeuss, Sarah Evans, Monica Barach, Phil Horner, Jean Peron, Marc Karell, Cathy Hiller, Shonna Keogan, Toni Ryan, Liaison to BOT

ABSENT: Ann Metcalfe, Joan Heilman

Minutes of May and September, 2012 were approved. Sarah thanked Cathy for the September minutes.

Subcommittee Reports:

Recycling –CFL light bulbs and recycling: Joan will write an article regarding recycling of CFLs. It will be submitted to Sound and Town after an article on the plastic bag ban. The article includes how to dispose of CFLs, collections centers, etc.

ICLEI Energy Milestones: Marc will check the ICLEI software to determine the differences between the 2005 energy figures and the results of the recent study by the intern. The next step is creating a plan to go forward.

Community Outreach - Michaela reached out to Rye regarding a Water Quality Committee and found that Rye does not have a WQ committee. Larchmont was also consulted. Cathy suggested that swapping of environmental committee minutes among other local municipalities would be beneficial.

Communications: The Sound and Town is ready to publish an article to inform the public that leaves that fall on the lawns may be mowed and left on the lawn as mulch. -

Shonna suggested creating a Facebook page to post environment-related articles. In that way, articles may be contributed and published on Facebook as needed. She will do research on it.

Water Quality Sub Committee (WQSC): Phil reported that a WQSC meeting will be held on October 18. He said several important proposals and points will be on the agenda:

► Using a call number that is to be posted near rivers and waterways for the public to report blockages. He has discussed this with Village Manager Richard Slingerland and Assistant Village Manager Dan Sarnoff. They are working on an interactive form on the website to collect input from the public.

► M4S - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems - Phil said that an annual report is required. A government audit will take place next week. Besides the illegal hook ups, the sump pumps contribute to the problems of sewage in the storm drains.

Water Sub Committee Report – continued.

► The VOM will circulate a survey of residents and commercial property owners to obtain their level of knowledge of water-related topics: illegal sewer hookups, The survey will satisfy one of the requirements of the M4-S report. Michaela is working with the Assistant Village Manager, Dan Sarnoff, on the WQSC’s “alert form.”

► EPA Requirements for Mamaroneck’s Violation of Clean Water Act – there is now testing, studying and write-ups by Malcolm Pirnie – but as yet no information on coliform level in the water.

► The VOM is waiting for Westchester County to give it instructions on how to fix sanitary sewer problems.

(end of WQSC report)

LWRP – Phil reported that no progress has been made.

Plastic Bag Ordinance – Recyclable Bags are being designed. The Committee will begin to educate the public on using recyclable bags through articles and posters. The new law will take effect about March 4, 2013. Brad and Sunny Goldberg generously gave a \$500 donations to purchase recyclable bags.

Plastic Bag Film Update: A MHS student is considering creating a film on plastic bags and the environment. Cathy would advise the student as he/she progresses.

Hazardous Waste: To avoid oil spills into our waterways, Stephen Grough, WC Department of Health, suggested that a letter from the Village be written to the Dept. of Health, 145 Huguenot Street, New Rochelle requesting under the freedom of information act that certificates of compliance for Village gasoline stations. The exact address of the gas station should be given. The certificate will give information on last inspection dates and any violations. The Village Manager might already have this information.

Printer Cartridges: Jean will bring unneeded unused cartridges to Staples for recycling.

New Liaison to CTFE: Phil reminded the Committee that after the November Village elections a new liaison will be appointed by the BOT and the Committee should be prepared for a new person.

Respectfully submitted: Jean Peron

Next Meeting November 20, 2012 – **NOTE: NEW MEETING TIME IS 7:30**